



UH IBC: Styrofoam Dissecting Boards Guidance

Guideline 1.0, Version 1.0 Effective

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The use of Styrofoam material or other porous material is generally not accepted for use as a specimen or necropsy dissecting board. The reason Styrofoam should be used with limitations is that the material cannot be autoclaved or chemically cleaned appropriately when cracked and/or punctured. Operators should consider using dissecting boards constructed of non-porous materials that can withstand autoclaving or chemical disinfectant treatment. However, Styrofoam can be used on as one time use board, decontaminated and disposed of after the activity.

Dissecting pins that are used to position the carcass must always be cleaned and stored; otherwise, pins may fall off of the dissecting board, thus, becoming displaced and a safety hazard.

Pursuant to the BMBL, because all procedure rooms are classified as BSL2/ABSL2 facilities, these Styrofoam boards must be completely cleaned after every use. Please be advised, equipment and work surfaces are required to be decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant after work with an infectious agent, and after any spills, splashes, or other overt contamination.